

LATE

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/18/2015
Time: 01:30 PM
Location: 229
Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 062 REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE TO INCREASE THE FEDERAL BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND AFTERSCHOOL SNACK REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR HAWAII.

**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

The Department of Education supports SCR 062, requesting the United States Department of Agriculture to increase federal reimbursement rates for Hawaii.

According to a March 2012 US Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service report, Hawaii acquired 405 food items for an estimated total of \$28.7 million in SY 2009/10. Of the total dollar value, 85.5 percent were commercially purchased foods.

In terms of value, fruits and juices was the largest food group purchased in Alaska (20.4 percent), followed by milk and dairy products (15.7 percent). In Hawaii, milk and dairy products represented the largest food group (31.2 percent) followed by poultry (14 percent) and fruits and juices (13.5 percent). Bakery products held only a small share in Hawaii because the individual schools bake their own bread and bread products. The share of milk and other dairy products was particularly high in Hawaii, 31.2 percent, compared to 22 percent in the 48 states and 16 percent in Alaska. Milk and other dairy products held a particularly high share in Hawaii - 31 percent in value terms and almost half the volume of all food acquisitions (48 percent).

The additional federal funds sought could potentially decrease the amount of general funds required for working capital and minimize the frequency of increasing meal prices

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CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
('AHA KULA HO'ĀMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: 808-586-3775 Fax: 808-586-3776

FOR: SCR62 / SR26 Requesting the United States Secretary of Agriculture to Increase the Federal Breakfast, Lunch, and Afterschool Snack Reimbursement Rates for Hawaii

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE(S): Senate Committee on Education

ROOM: Conference Room 229

FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission ("Commission") appreciates the opportunity to submit this written testimony in strong support of this resolution.

Many public charter schools report that they struggle or are altogether unable to participate in the federal school lunch program because the rate of reimbursement is so inadequate to cover the cost of providing meals. In addition, some charter schools previously had contracted with the Department of Education ("DOE") for meals, but in 2013 the DOE discontinued this vending relationship as a result of operational and costs considerations, except as to charter schools that share a facility with a DOE school. This Session the Commission had requested a \$5 million appropriation to provide food service facilities at six charter schools to enable more schools to provide meals to their students themselves. A measure to accomplish the same purpose, Senate Bill 1215 SD1, did not survive the crossover deadline.

The Commission currently is participating on a Hawaii working group convened by Hawaii Appleseed on behalf of the DOE to conduct an analysis on the actual cost of school meals in Hawaii and explore the possibility of increasing the federal rate of reimbursement. This effort appears very promising.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR62 on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Friday, March 20, 2015 2:24:24 PM

SCR62

Submitted on: 3/20/2015

Testimony for EDU on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Hecht	Kona Pacific Public Charter School	Support	No

Comments: It is extremely expensive to operate school nutrition programs in Hawai'i, as both food and labor costs are substantially higher than the mainland. The cost of the USDA's Thrifty Food Plan is 147% that of the average cost, while labor is 118% of U.S. average. The largest school food authority ("SFA") in Hawai'i, the Hawai'i Department of Education, is insolvent. The HIDOE full-cost estimate for a school lunch is \$5.10. USDA reimbursement is \$3.68. Each year, the HIDOE requires an emergency allocation from the legislature; in 2013, the allocation was \$19M. This funding is required each year, because the USDA reimbursement is inadequate. The reimbursement differential between Hawai'i and the continental United States was set in 1979, and hasn't been reassessed in 36 years. It must be updated to align with the economic reality we face while trying to feed hungry children. I urge you to support this legislation asking the Secretary of Agriculture to increase Hawaii's reimbursement rates.

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Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR62 on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM
Date: Thursday, March 19, 2015 8:12:00 AM

LATE

SCR62

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Hawaii Island School Garden Network	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii's National School Lunch Program NSLP reimbursement needs to be at parity with Alaska. Asking for an additonal dollar per plate reimbursement will assist School Food Services Branch to better administrate the Districts Food Service and help provided needed resources.

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SR26 on Mar 18, 2015 13:30PM*
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:13:08 PM

SR26

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for EDU on Mar 18, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Brinker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc:
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR62 on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM*
Date: Thursday, March 19, 2015 11:29:58 AM

SCR62

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Campagna	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Thursday, March 19, 2015 9:17:13 AM

SCR62

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for EDU on Mar 20, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl	Individual	Support	No

Comments: YES! We have so many children who need this service. My only request is that they not only get more \$\$ but ask for local control of what can be served. Lots of schools are serving food that the children will not culturally or locally eat because it's on the "approved" list. Food waste is not what we want.

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